



DOCKET NO.: B0953.70003US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

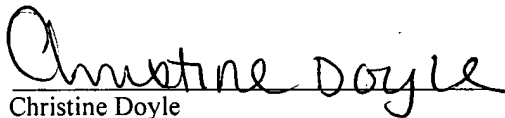
Applicant: John E. Ahern  
Serial No.: 10/766,173  
Confirmation No.: 4427  
Filed: January 28, 2004  
For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR TREATING TISSUE

Examiner: W.H. Matthews  
Art Unit: 3774

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 9th day of May, 2008.

  
Christine Doyle

---

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed Examination Report from a corresponding International or Foreign National Application.

Supplementary European Search Report dated  
November 13, 2007 from corresponding European Patent  
Application No. 00 939700.1.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08) be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

Serial No.: 10/766,173  
Conf. No.: 4427

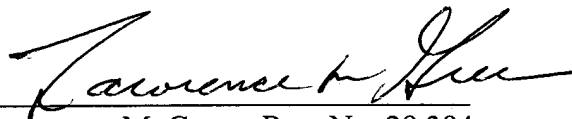
- 3 -

Art Unit: 3774

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Lawrence M. Green, Reg. No. 29,384  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206  
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: B0953.70003US00

Date: May 9, 2008

xx